



SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES





Profile of Student Health

There has been a significant increase in the complexity of student health needs over the last 5 years.

In 2010 – 2011, **over 30 % of our student population had a health alert** that required nursing assessment, intervention, follow up, and/or support. These health alerts included:

Life-threatening allergies; asthma; bleeding disorders; cancer; cardiac disorders; cerebral palsy; cystic fibrosis; diabetes; down's syndrome; gastrointestinal disorders; mental health concerns; neurological disorders; renal disorders; vision and hearing deficits, etc.

Partnering with Parents

- Parents send their healthy child to school each day
- They have a right to expect their child's health will be safeguarded while at school
- Communication is key in supporting their child's health needs

Last school year BC nurses had over 9,000 phone calls and parent conferences



BCSD Health Services

School Year	Total Number of Health Office Visits
2006 – 2007	52,259
2007 – 2008	64,436
2008 – 2009	73,257
2009 – 2010	74,025
2010 – 2011	82,570



Office Visit Types

Student visits due to:	2010 – 2011
Acute illness	23 %
Acute injury	20 %
Health Maintenance	30 %
Other	27 %



BCSD Medication Statistics 2010 - 2011

- Total medications administered was **11,406**

Analgesics, antibiotics, anticonvulsants, antihistamines, corticosteroids, gastrointestinal, insulin, and psychotropics, etc.

- 77 % of these medications were “scheduled”
- Most medications were administered mid-day





A School Nurse

The National Association of School Nurses defines school nursing:

“School nursing is a specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well being, academic success, and life-long achievement of students.

To that end, school nurses facilitate positive student responses to normal development; promote health and safety;

A School Nurse

intervene with actual and potential health problems; provide case management services; and actively collaborate with others to build student and family capacity for adaptation, self management, self advocacy, and learning."



National Association of School Nurses

Primary Role of BCSD School Nurses

Promote student achievement and academic success by providing nursing assessments and interventions that keep students at school and in the classroom

Close to 95 % of BC students are able to return to class after their health office visit and nursing intervention



Bethlehem Central School District Health Services

What do our
school nurses *really* do?



Our School Nurses

- Triage student health concerns
- Provide nursing assessment of physical and emotional concerns
- Provide emergency care as needed
- Plan for health related emergencies
- Counsel students on health and emotional issues



Our School Nurses

- Administer medication on a daily; and, on an as needed basis
- Refer health issues to healthcare providers for further care and treatment as needed
- Provide NYS mandated health screenings for vision, hearing and scoliosis
- Monitor health appraisals for mandates
- Review and complete paperwork for sport's program



Our School Nurses

- Write and implement Emergency and Individualized Healthcare Plans
- Teach students to manage their own healthcare concerns
- Educate staff on student's medical needs
- Act as a liaison between the home and the student's medical provider



The first hour of school...

- Parent phone calls: 5
- Physician phone call: 1
- Parent email: 1
- Parent conferences: 2
- Student conferences: 5
- Teacher notification: 2
- Nursing assessment and interventions: 5
- Administered medication: 1



One fine “mid-day” ...

- Nurses administered 75 medications
- Provided tube feedings, catheterizations, and tracheostomy care
- Provided nursing assessments and interventions for 250 students
- Called parents to follow up on their child’s concerns
- Followed up with BC staff on student concerns





Challenges to Health Services

Increasing complexity of student needs

Increased concerns surrounding mental health

Lack of time to provide essential:

Planning for student health needs

Case management

Collaboration with BC professionals

Adequate documentation

Training opportunities

Lack of substitute nurses



***Our School Nurses are
making a difference
as they care for BC's students!***